

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR HOLLY J. MITCHELL

February 15, 2022

The Jacqueline Avant Children and Family Center

On March 18, 2018, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors approved the creation of the Martin Luther King, Jr. (MLK) Child and Family Wellbeing Center to replace the old MLK Medical Hub Clinic (Hub Clinic). The Hub Clinic modular structure was built in 1974 and has far exceeded its life expectancy, with warped floorboards, a leaking roof, and non-functioning heating and cooling systems. The new three-story, 55,000 square foot clinic will house pediatric, mental health, and primary care services for at-risk children, including foster care children. It will also include an autism center that will provide programs and services for children with special needs and their families, a pediatric vision and dental clinic, and a crisis stabilization unit for children and youth ages 3-12 who are in need of urgent mental health care. Substantial completion of the new clinic is projected to occur in April 2022.

Mrs. Jacqueline Avant was a noted Los Angeles philanthropist and community activist who was dedicated to improving the lives of children in the Watts and Compton areas and to supporting the arts. She volunteered with Head Start and was president of the Neighbors

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of Watts, a support group for the South-Central Community Child Care Center. She was a producer of the Los Angeles Debut of the Great Wall Youth Orchestra. She also served on the Host Committee for the traveling exhibit “Treasures of Ancient Nigeria” and was a member of the Greek Theatre Advisory Board. She served two terms as the Board President of the Museum of African American Art of Los Angeles and was a trustee of the Savannah College of Art and Design. Mrs. Avant served on the Board of the Pacific Asia Museum in Pasadena and was Tour Chair for the student tour for Japanese art at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art where she served on the East Asian Art Council. Most recently, she was a Board member of The Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts. Mrs. Avant was a noted collector of African American and Japanese art.

The MLK Child and Family Wellbeing Center embodies the vision for the compassionate and healing pediatric care that Mrs. Avant represented and promoted throughout her life. Dedicating the MLK Child and Family Wellbeing Center to her memory will allow her message of resilience, strength, beauty and hope to continue into future generations.

I THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

Name the MLK Child and Family Wellbeing Center, the “Jacqueline Avant Children and Family Center” to honor the work, life, and memory of Mrs. Avant.

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(YV)